THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b) 1% vacancies in Group 'C' & 'D' each for the blind, deaf and orthopaedically handicapped have been reserved in the Central Government Services and comparable posts in Public Undertakings. To clear the backlog of reserved posts for blind and deaf in group 'C' & 'D' posts in Central Government Ministries/ Deptts. and Public Undertaking a special recruitment drive programme has been taken up. Government have initiated a number of schemes and programmes for welfare of handicapped in the field of education, training and rehabilitation.

(c) and (d) The matter regarding bringing legislation for handicapped is under consideration of the Government.

Conference of Chief Minister to discuss 64th Amendment Bill

1246. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has received a letter from the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu requesting to convene a conference of all Chief Ministers to discuss the Constitution 64th Amendment Bill, 1989; and

(b) if so, what has been response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to convene another Conference of Chief Ministers to discuss the Constitution 64th Amendment Bill, 1989 as the matter is under consideration of the Parliament.

Changes in area and prices of land meant for schools in Chandigarh and Mohali

1247. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government had arbitarily changed/ altered area/prices of the land allotted to the schools in Chandigarh and Mohali;

(b) whether Government had received any Memorandum from institutions protesting these changes; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to meet the demands of the Institutions (schools)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Administration of land is a subject dealt by the State Govts./Union Territories. Central Govt. are not consulted in matters relating to this subject.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A representation received from Mohali ways forwarded to Govt. of Punjab for disposal. Another petition regarding land price for schools in Chandigarh was duly examined by the Rajya Sabha Petitions Committee and disposed of. The ninety-fifth report of the Committee presented to the House on 30th March, 1989, refers.

Allotment of type IV quarters in LIZ area

1248. SHRI K. G. MAHESWARAPPA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some type IV quarters in Raja Bazar area near Gole Market, New Delhi which were declared dangerous and required for demolition, were got vacated in 1979;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the occupants of these type IV quarters were allotted type II quarters in lieu thereof;

(c) whether in the letter making this allotment it was specifically stated that this arrangement was clearly temporary and the occupants would soon be allotted type IV quarters in DIZ area;

(d) if so, whether type IV quarters have since been allotted in DIZ area to the affected allottees; and

(e) if answer to part (c) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor and by when a type IV quarter would be allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Each affected allottee was provided alternative accommodation by combining two type-II quarters as equivalent to one type-IV quarter. The allotment was subject to the condition that these two type-II quarters each are alloted temporarily and that he would be shifted to type-IV quarter in D.I.Z. area as and when new construction comes up in due course.

(d) Only 4 officials were affected. Out of these 2 allottees, have since declined the alternate accommodation. Type-IV accommodation to the remaining two allottees is likely to be finalised soon.

(e) Only a limited number of type-IV quarters have been added in D.I.Z.

New Approach to Urban Poverty

*. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have decided to give a new approach to urban poverty;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether the earlier schemes have not brought good results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group on urban poverty with a view to analyse *inter-alia* the nature, characteristics and dimensions of urban poverty. This Group is also examining training and skill formation facilities and improving employment prospects for the urban poor. The group is still in the process of examining the problem of urban poverty from various angles.

(c) The Government is running various schemes for the benefit of the urban poor such as Urban Basic Services (U.B.S.) where under a community participatory approach is adopted for provision of primary health care, pre-school learning, hand pumps for water supply, pour flush laterines and similar benefits; Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (S.E.P.U.P.) whereunder loans upto an amount of Rs. 5,000 including 25 per cent subsidy are given to poor urban households with a monthly income of less than Rs. 600 for starting self-employment ventures; and Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (E.I.U.S.) whereunder efforts are made to provide water supply, street lighting paving of lanes and pathways, sanitation and allied facilities in urban slums. These schemes have shown good results in some parts of the country. The National Commission on Urbanisation has recommended the expansion of U.B.S. and S.E.P.U.P. The Government attaches high importance to formulation of schemes for alleviation of urban poverty. The scope and modalities of such schemes have to be worked out in consultation with various Departments and agencies concered.